



LARC



Volume 45, Number 2

February 2006

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

February 2, 2006 - 7 p.m.

Louisiana QSO Party

February 10 & 11

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Jackson, MS - February 3 & 4, 2006

Orange, TX - February 25, 2006

Rayne - March 10 & 11, 2006

Each Wednesday

Lunch Bunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Golden Corral - Amb Caffery

Check 146.820 - repeater for info

Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

FROM THE PREZ

I hope everyone has had a good first month of the year.

Well for the upcoming meeting, there are a couple of things on the agenda. First will be planning for the hamfest. The February meeting will be the last meeting before the hamfest. The next biggie on the agenda will be the election of officers for the 2006-2007 term.

We have a list of nominees that was presented to the club at the January meeting by the nominating committee. They are as follows:

President	Roland Guidry NA5Q
Vice President	Stratos Imvriotis KE5DCI
Secretary	Randy Castille N5MLJ
Treasurer	Joy Breaux N5YCS
Board Members	Charlie Morrison KI5XP & Shannon Lytle KE5CKT

And of course as immediate past president, I will also be a member of the board.

There will be nominations from the floor if you have someone else that you would like to see elected to office, all we ask is that you talk to any prospective nominee and be sure that they are willing to serve before nominating them. Then we will elect.

Hope to see all of you at the meeting February 2, and promise we will have no ground hogs. Meeting will be at the Red Cross at 101 Pat Street.

73 Danny K5ARH

V.P.'s Message

Well, looks like time is running out for me as the Club's vice president, as I choose not to run for office this year. I can say it has been an experience to serve the last few years, you have been a great group to work with. I will try to keep my article short to save space.

The Louisiana QSO Party will be on 1500Z February 10th thru 0300Z the 11th. The AARA has decided to take part this year. I have received permission from the Lafayette Parish OEP to use their facilities for this event. Anyone wanting to take part, need to get their name on the list for security reasons ASAP. Please contact me at via e-mail, telephone or via the Monday Night AARA 2 Meter Net. Hope to see you at the February 2nd General Meeting. Bring door prizes if you have some.

73's de Herman KN5GRK kn5grk@w5ddl.org 337-234-5364

AARA OFFICERS 2005-2006

President Danny Griffith K5ARH

k5arh@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres Herman Campbell KN5GRK

Secretary Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

Roland Guidry NA5Q

Calvin Begnaud KD5JCT

John Martin KA5BSE

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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

“A” is for Antenna.....or is it Art?

by Glenn Breaux - KD5NVC

We all know that feeling of seeing it for the first time, to gaze upon that most important item that all hams need.....The antenna! The bigger, higher and with the most elements as possible just makes the heart glad.

Well, I wish I could say the same thing, you see I recently purchased a 20 element cross-polarized beam from M2 in Fresno, Ca. Before I could put this thing of beauty up in the air for all to see, I had to go offshore. For the 12 days I was gone, I pictured in my mind (as we all have), of that brand new beam glistening in the sun that it almost seemed to fly from its perch high on the tower.

On the day I returned, our youngest daughter, Melissa was in my garage finishing her latest project for her UL art class. She takes a lot of care and a fair amount of work on these projects, which takes most of any scrap I have lying around. After my daughter and I exchanged our normal greetings I noticed a very nice piece of aluminum tube stock vertically positioned on a cement block. There was a hard 90-degree bend of the top 1 1/2-foot of the VERY CLEAN and seemingly VERY NEW piece of tubing, NOT SCRAP. From the horizontally bent section, hung wires of various sizes with mobile aluminum strips attached. The closer I approached this “art de creation” I also noted holes that seemed to be precision drilled in the tubing and this seemed very familiar. Then I realized that the tubing she had used AND BENT was two nested boom sections to my yet to be built M2 20 element beam!



In true ham style, I quickly began to think on how I could load this art creation with RF and salvage some semblance of an antenna from this but it was to no avail, it was an ART project now and not an antenna.

I did send pictures of the M2 art project to Mike and Wyatt at M2. Wyatt said that they knew they made art but now they have proof!

By the way, Melissa passed her art and design class.....

46th ACADIANA HAMFEST 2006

Nick Pugh K5QXJ (Hamfest Chairperson) is looking for volunteers to help with the Hamfest upcoming in March 10 & 11th. Nick will be holding discussions following the AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net concerning our progress. Check in and see what you can do to help out.

To get the latest information about our Hamfest with flyer, map and local accommodations, check out our webpage at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS -- DECEMBER 2005

(edited for space)

Congratulations to Roberto KB5AVY on being named the recipient of the W. Sandy

Lynch Memorial Award! This award has been given annually since 2003 by the Tokyo International Amateur Radio Association to one licensed amateur radio operator in the world who most exemplifies the dedication and personality of the late W7BX/7J1ABV. For 20 years Roberto has struggled to keep four repeaters on the air in the New Orleans area with little assistance from other users. One of his repeaters was the only link to other relief and emergency centers for a critical period following Hurricane Katrina. Roberto's repeater did not lose power because its location at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation had its own auxiliary power plant.

Don't forget the upcoming LA QSO Party from 1500Z February 10 until 0300Z February 11. Awards and certificates of participation will be given by the Thibodeaux ARC, the party's sponsor. Check out <http://www.laqso.w5yl.org/> for the complete rules.

I am very sorry to report that W5FYZ is now a Silent Key. Ernie was a ham for many years and will be missed by all who knew him.

73,
Mickey Cox K5MC
LA Section Manager
Email: k5mc@arrl.org

TID BYTES

The 2006-2007 membership dues need to be paid before March 31, 2006. Go to:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/aarambr.pdf>

Download the application form, **fill it out completely**, please include your e-mail address, and check if you want to receive the LARC newsletter by USPS or e-mail. **Everyone must fill out a application even if you are a Senior Member.**

2006 ARRL Testing & Question Pool Information

The ARRL VEC Test Fee for 2006 will remain at \$14. Remember that a \$14 fee is charged to every person seeking a new license or upgrade as listed on your ARRL VEC Candidate Roster. That one fee pays for one attempt at each of the four exam elements. If an applicant retests an exam element that was failed moments earlier, another \$14 fee is charged (and another Roster entry is created).

Technician class (Element 2) Pool is due for release January 1, 2006 and will become effective July 1, 2006. The current Technician Pool is valid until June 30, 2006.

General class (Element 3) Pool will be released December 1, 2006 and will become effective July 1, 2007.

The current General Pool will now be valid until June 30, 2007

The Amateur Extra class (Element 4) will be released December 1, 2007 and will become effective July 1, 2008. The current Amateur Extra Pool will now be valid until June 30, 2008.

AARA Monday Night Net Report

Congratulations to Joey Richard KE5AOF as the winner of the ARRL Handbook for having the highest number of check-ins over the past year, well actually second highest, as I had top score of 50 out of 52 but I declined my prize to the second in line. I already have a recent copy of the Handbook. Joey did all the work as the Net Manager by calling over half the nets and keeping a scoresheet on who checked in. Joey wanted the Net Control Stations disqualified from being in the contest, but why punish a person from the contest by their hard work. We plan to set down some rules about the contest and net procedures at the next meeting.

Joey will be presented his ARRL Handbook at the meeting following the March Hamfest.

Here are the top scores out of a possible 52:

Herman KN5GRK 50	Joey KE5AOF 46
Greg K5LFT 46	Ken KD5YWB 43
Al K5DPG 42	Danny KD5JSM 38
Kathy KD5TJZ 38	Danny K5ARH 37
John KA5BSE 37	Maureena KB5SMX 37
Ralph WB5GAF 37	Phoebe KC5VRN 37
Calvin KD5JCT 37	

BTW, Joey is looking for anyone who would like to become a Net Control Station and help out on our Monday Night 2 Meter Net.

Upcoming Birthdays

02/03 KD5JZN Deano
 02/04 KB5WI Weston
 02/04 KD5YWB Ken
 02/14 N5RKK Tim
 02/16 KD5NVC Glenn
 02/19 W5MEE Billy
 02/20 KB5EKD Phil
 02/24 KN5LSU Chester
 03/04 KD5AIB Janiece
 03/15 KE5EEO John
 03/19 KE5AWZ Mike

Some members failed to put their birthdays on applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some are not listed.

FOR SALE

HAM-III Antenna Rotator (Same as HAM-IV except 12.5 Sq Ft Wind Loading) Like New (Only used for 3 Months then stored inside) Also Included Rohn AS-25 Rotor Mounting Plate & Rohn TB-3 Thrust Bearing.
 Price: \$200.00

Fred Cook KE5LP
 (337) 984-9979

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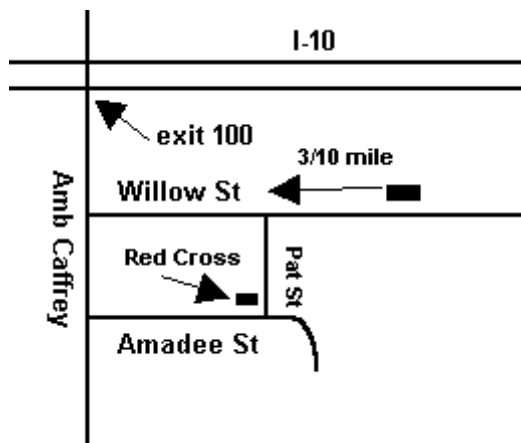
ICOM 706 (Original) Meets factory specifications on all bands. Comes with mike, manual, box etc. Used but not abused as it was used as my HF remote base for the UHF repeater.
 Asking \$475.00

Contact Dick Melcher WA6MDI
 wa6mdi@arrl.net

AARA GENERAL MEETING - February 2, 2006
7:00 PM

Herman Campbell
416 Dale St.
Lafayette, LA 70501-2012

<http://www.w5ddl.org>



COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

UPCOMING CONTESTS & SPECIAL EVENTS

February 3 thru 5 - Buddy Holly 47th Anniversary of death

February 4 & 5 - 10-10 International Winter Phone

(10 meters only)

XE International RTTY Contest

YL International QSO Party

February 5 - North American Sprint SSB

February 11 & 12 - CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest

February 10 & 11 - Louisiana QSO Party

February 11 & 12 - OMISS QSO Party

February 13 thru 17 - School Club Roundup

February 18 & 19 - ARRL International DX CW Contest

February 25 & 26 - North American RTTY QSO Party

February 28 - 63rd anniversary of launching USS Kidd

March 4 & 5 - ARRL International DX Phone Contest

Check out the ARRL Website or QST Magazine for other listings too numerous to list here.

www.arrl.org

FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries -- including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245